



**S. Marshak**

**Babies of  
the Zoo**







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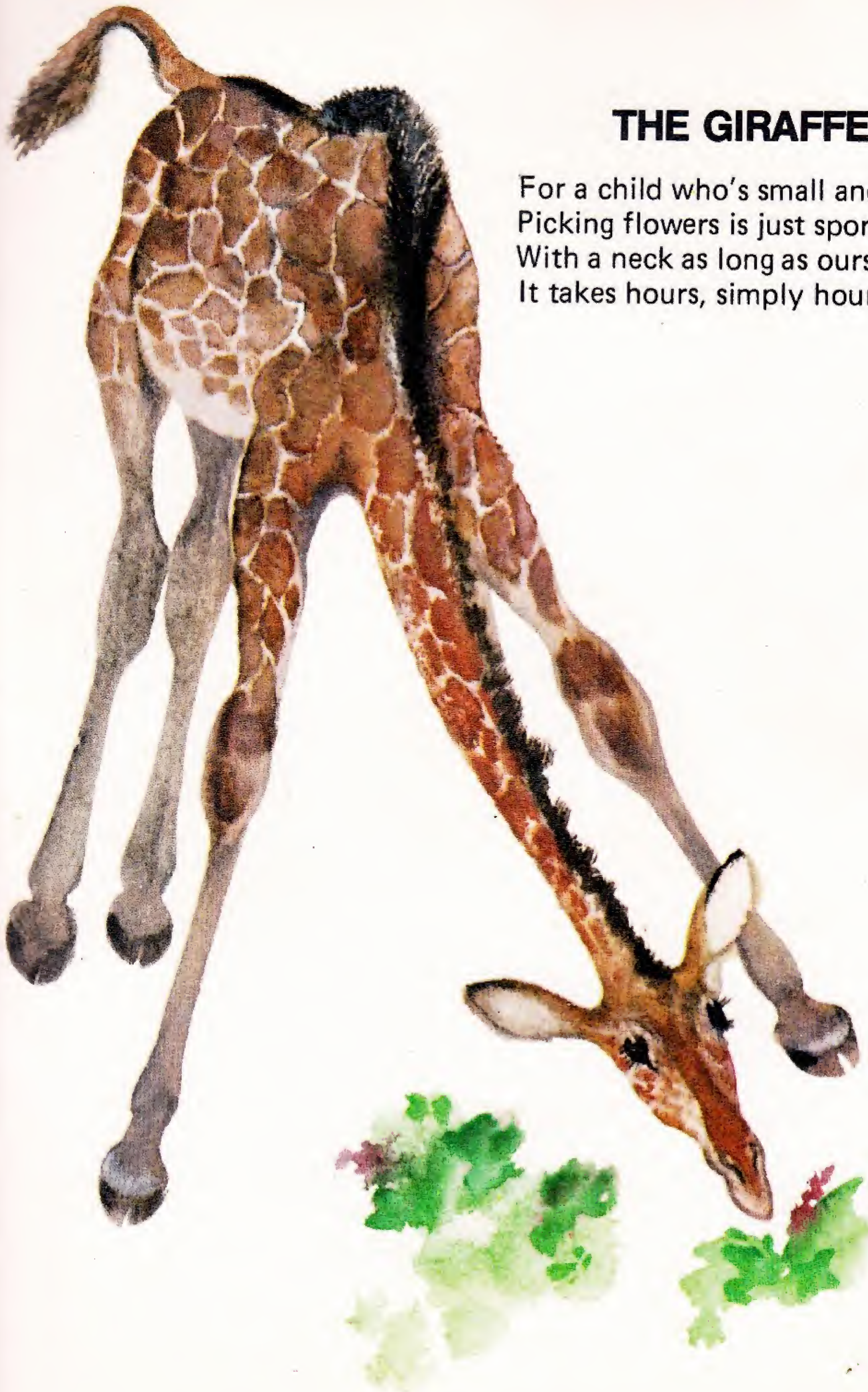
## THE ELEPHANT

These two slippers I was told  
To put on when it got cold.  
They are nice but much too small,  
And I've four feet, after all!



## THE GIRAFFE

For a child who's small and short  
Picking flowers is just sport.  
With a neck as long as ours  
It takes hours, simply hours!





# THE BABY TIGER

I'm a Tiger, not a cat.  
I am dangerous to pat.







## **THE PENGUIN CHICKS**

Myself and my twin brother  
Were only hatched today.  
Where can we find our mother?  
Is she a bird, you'd say?

Not knowing what your name is  
Is really rather thick.  
Here someone comes to claim us,  
It seems we're Penguin chicks!



## MAGO THE MONKEY

I'm new at the Zoo, and my name is Mago.  
I came here from Africa some weeks ago:  
A sailor boy brought me from over the sea,  
Tucked in a box that he made for me.

I'm homesick at times, but happy enough,  
Eating bananas and this lovely stuff:  
Called Cod Liver Oil, a spoonful a day,  
Supposed to keep the doctor away.







## THE ZEBRAS

All the Zebras are, of course,  
Second cousins of the horse.  
They are striped from head to toe,

In the grass they do not show,  
So they run about and play  
Hide-and-seek the livelong day.





## **THE BABY ELEPHANT**

This tiny little tot  
Feels very, very hot,  
There's nothing like a spray  
To drive the heat away.  
This tub is not much fun  
For tots who weigh a ton.



## THE LION CUBS

Everyone knows our Daddy, don't you?  
Our Daddy's the Lion at the Zoo.  
He's got heavy paws and a great mane of hair,  
And his roar gives people a terrible scare!

A Lion like that must have plenty to eat.  
So Daddy is given the best kind of meat.  
But we are just cubs, and our only food  
Is sweetened milk, which is awfully good!





# THE HUNGRY YOUNG CAMEL

Starving me from meal to meal,  
Don't I get a rotten deal?  
With an appetite like mine  
What's two pailfuls at a time?





# THE POLAR BEARS

How nice to dive and swim and play  
In such a lovely pool!  
They change the water every day,  
And keep it nice and cool.  
From wall to wall we love to race,  
We're really hard to beat!  
"Keep to the right, there's lots of space,  
Don't shove me with your feet! "







## THE YOUNG OSTRICH

I am an Ostrich, five weeks old,  
I'm awfully proud and strong and bold,  
I stamp my foot at any foe  
And scratch the earth with my big toe.

When scared, I stretch my neck and race,  
And lead them all a merry chase!  
But though I try, and try, and try,  
I cannot sing and cannot fly.





## **THE KANGAROO**

Aren't they having fun, these two,  
Playing leapfrog in the Zoo!  
If you were a Kangaroo  
You could join them too.



## THE GOSLING

The Gosling had a dipping  
With all the grownup geese.  
He's shivering and dripping.  
Hand him a towel, please!







## THE ESKIMO DOG

Do not believe the sign that's there.  
It isn't fair to say "Beware",  
All those who know me say I am  
As meek and gentle as a lamb.  
I always think it's very queer  
To cage me, like the rest, in here.





## THE PENGUIN

Don't I look just like a sack,  
One part white, the other black?  
In the old days you should see me  
Race and beat the fastest steamers!  
Now I've grown so very fond  
Of this quiet little pond.





## THE OWLETS

These owlets, good brothers,  
Grabbed hold of a seat.  
They don't mix with others,  
They sleep or they eat.





## THE SPARROW IN THE ZOO

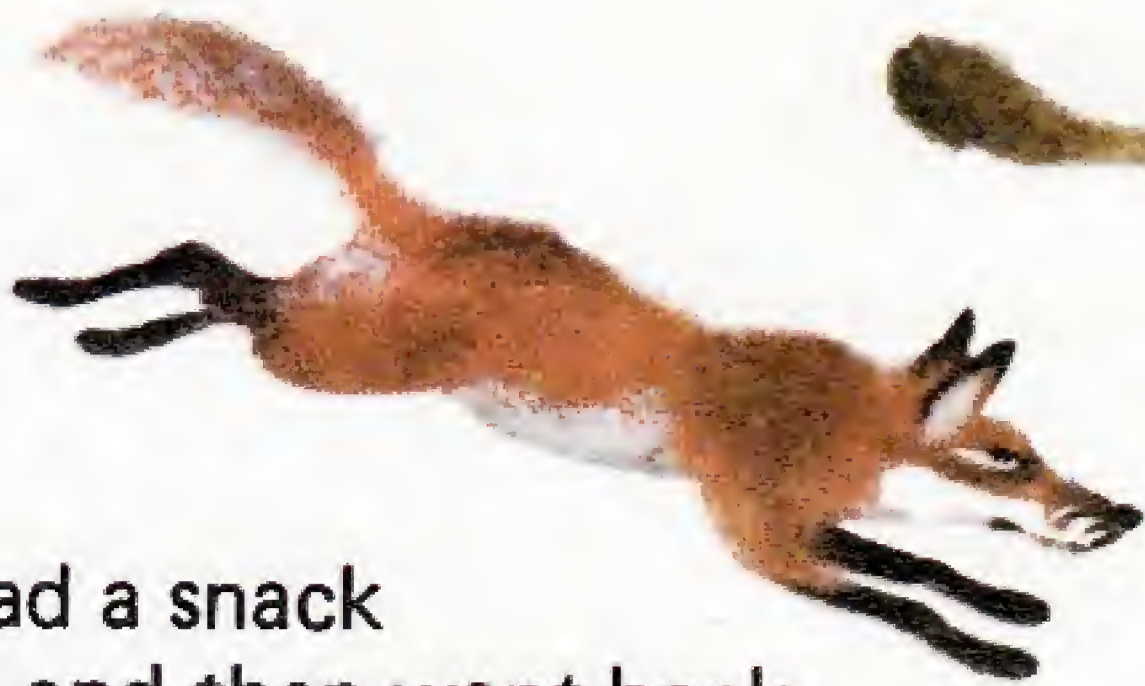
Tell us, Sparrow, do you feed  
At the Zoo?— I do, indeed.



Yesterday at breakfast-time  
I hopped in to see the Lion.



After that I had a snack  
With the Fox, and then went back



To the Walrus for a drink,  
He was very nice, I think.

Then old Jumbo and the Crane  
Treated me to greens and grain.





Nor the Rhino did I miss,  
And I had some bran of his.

With the Croc I meant to sup,  
But he almost ate me up!



**Drawings by E. Charushin**

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**С. Маршак**

**ДЕТКИ В КЛЕТКЕ**

***На английском языке***



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